

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 3311

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SOPN, PROP, PINT, RO, US

SUBJ: RCP MAGYAR RESEARCHER COMMENTS ON RFE BROADCASTS

1. DURING DISCUSSION OF MAGYAR MINORITY QUESTION MAY 15 WITH SEVERAL MEMBERS OF STAFF OF INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE OF STEFAN GHEORGHU ACADEMY (RCP RESEARCH AND TRAINING COMPLEX), SUBJECT OF RFE BROADCASTS CAME UP. SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY OF INSTITUTE, WHO SERVES DUAL FUNCTION AS IN-HOUSE MAGYAR RESEARCHER AND SECURITATE WATCHDOG, MENTIONED THAT HE HAD FIRST HEARD LAJOS TAKAC'S MEMORANDUM ON RFE (ROMANIAN LANGUAGE) BROADCAST. POLITICAL OFFICER INQUIRED IF HE WERE ABLE ALSO TO LISTEN TO HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE BROADCASTS AND, IF SO, HOW HE WOULD COMPARE TWO SERVICES. HE GAVE HIGH MARKS OVERALL TO RFE HANDLING OF MAGYAR MINORITY QUESTION AS FACTUAL AND OBJECTIVE.

2. MORE BROADLY, HE STATED THAT HUNGARIAN SERVICE--RECEPTION WHICH WAS NORMALLY BETTER THAN THAT OF ROMANIAN SERVICE--WAS MORE PROFESSIONAL AND SOPHISTICATED THAN ROMANIAN SERVICE, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS "EMOTIONAL" AND PRONE TO LOWER FORMS OF CRITICISM. HE BECAME MORE FERVENT IN DESCRIBING HUNGARIAN SERVICE STAFF AS OF HIGHER CALIBRE THAN ROMANIAN SERVICE STAFF AND CITED A POLITICAL ANALYST
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BY THE NAME OF HONAK (PHONETIC), WHO HE SAID HAD FLED HUNGARY IN 1956, AS A PARTICULARLY PERCEPTIVE, CAPABLE AND OBJECTIVE ANALYST. IT WAS CLEAR, HE SAID, THAT ROMANIAN SERVICE IS STAFFED BY A DIFFERENT CALIBRE OF EMIGRE AND IS CONSEQUENTLY MORE "ANTI-SOCIALIST" AND "ANTI-NATIONAL" (ANTI-REGIME) THAN HUNGARIAN SERVICE. IT WAS EVIDENT THAT NOT ONLY THE MAGSBR BUT ALSO THE TWO ROMANIAN RESEARCHERS

(BOTH OF WHOM EXPECT TO GO TO U.S. ON USICA 90-DAY GRANTS IN NEAR FUTURE) ARE RFE LISTENERS. COMMENT: WHILE POLICIES AND STYLE OF GOR MAY LEND THEMSELVES MORE READILY TO CRITICISM THAN DO POLICIES OF GOH, COMMENTS OF IN-HOUSE MAGYAR ARE NEVERTHELESS WORTHY OF NOTE. END COMMENT.

3. AT OPENING OF DISCUSSION AND WITH COMMENT THAT THERE ARE TWO DISTINCT DIVISIONS IN RFE, POLITICAL OFFICER HAD GIVEN ROMANIANS COPY OF RAD BACKGROUND REPORT. ITN OFFICIAL ROMANIAN

DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL ON MINORITY AFFAIRS, WHICH CAUSED PERCEPTIBLE FLINCH BY YOUNG RESEARCHER. HOWEVER, INITIAL RELECTANCE WAS OVERCOME ONCE STUDY HAD BEEN THUMBED THROUGH, AND IT WAS POINTED OUT TO US THAT FOLLOWING PERSONS LISTED IN STUDY ARE NOT ETHNIC MAGYARS: TEODOR HAS (PROBABLY JEWISH), LEON NAS, IOSIF BANC (SLAV, NOT MAGYAR), ION COSMA (WIFE IS, BUT NOT HE), NICOLAE VERES, AND IOAN FORIS. AGGREY

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